TECH TIP: Difference between ventilation & air filtration

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Ventilation is the distribution of fresh air to a building. Just about all buildings have and need for ventilation. The accumulation of airborne contaminants, and stagnating air can be unhealthy to breathe. Ventilation into a building is important and required in most applications. A common issue with ventilation systems is the quality of airflow, as well as filtration. Some ventilation systems do not filter the particles, or only filter large particles. There are Two basic types of ventilation systems: natural, mechanical. Ventilation is there to provide a good IAQ (indoor air quality). Normally this is measured in CO2 concentration, and humidity within the building.

Air filtration captures air particles through air filters. One main distinction between filters and ventilation is that air filtration doesn't bring in the needed fresh air into a building. An air filter is then a good support to the ventilation system to reduce the contaminants in the room, thereby lowering the need for increased ventilation. If you suspect in IAQ concerns may be simply fixed by correcting ventilation and air filtration deficiencies. Installing CO2 sensors, Demand Control Ventilation, and HEPA air filters will reduce indoor contaminants and improve IAQ.

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